

KING SATAN INTERVIEW WWW.KVLT.PL

Hi King Aleister Satan, maybe introduce yourself and tell us a bit about background and establishment of KING SATAN. What lead you to found the band?

- Greetings! I am Aleister Satan and I am a singer-songwriter-multi-instrumentalist-chaos magician in industrial metal band called KING SATAN, founded in the end of 2015 by yours truly at Tampere, FINLAND. For years I wanted to start more or less a solo project where I could experiment with everything I wanted, regardless of anything and anybody followed by a with a rule "that there are no rules!". My musical background is strongly rooted in black and death metal, with many bands and projects till today, most notable or at least worth to mention would be SATURNIAN MIST where I had been singer-songwriter, but yet still I wanted to do something totally outside of this box and outside of "traditional" band concepts. In 2015 I finally had a change and time to do so as I was working in my day job at BLACKVOX STUDIO as a sound engineer. I worked off hours there to experiment with several different musical and artistic elements which has been very important for me during the years and the results led eventually into the founding of KING SATAN which is not anymore a mere solo project due to line-up I have gathered around me.

Your debut album "King Fucking Satan" was released by Saturnal Records circa one month ago. What kind of feedback did you get so far from the media and your fans?

- Incredible! And from very large spectrum it seems, from completely bashing and disregard all the way to quite massive praises and acclaims, which makes it even more awesome as it kind of proves that this really pushes the buttons and gets under the skin of the people, both in good and bad. It's been only a month and it has been much bigger fuzz already than I expected so I haven't really digested everything yet what has happened. There has been people taking King Satan tattoos and doing "fan art" already at this point and on the other side we are getting death threats too,

which probably tells where this all is going. It seems that you either love us, or you hate us, no in-betweens and maybes, and it is indeed, when of lacking of a better term - incredible.

What about the recording process? Are you satisfied with the result?

- I am very satisfied with the result, especially considering how chaotic and messy the recording process was. I could not go through the same process again, as it was recorded during two years and in between the most strangest and most difficult part of my life, where my life literally turned upside down and I destroyed my mental health and physical health while making it, which took months to recover and I am actually still paying the debt from that. Hard to say did the album cause it or what, haha. I tried several recording methods and ways to expand my mind and expression, from improvisation to psychodrama and ritual magick when doing vocals, and also at one part I was due for several reasons - homeless and in psychosis making really ill-fit decisions when approaching the end of the recordings, but in the end I am more than glad this all happened during making this album, so I couldn't do the ultimate bad decision, because it would've been bummer for me since it all lead into kind of good place, hah! The album wouldn't be the way it is without the excellent mastering work of Magister Demaniac and Kate Boss' musical contributions. Anyway, I am still processing everything what has happened, but I am sure this album will always stay very special to me due to everything that circulates it's making alone.

I saw the following statement in one of your press releases: "In a world of established scene rules and tightly pre-determined genre boundaries, a black industrial metal freaks of KING SATAN serves fresh angle with their obscene brand of extreme music." Could you please tell us more what this might mean actually?

- In every subculture there are at least some unwritten rules, if not even written. And in every genre has strict "boundaries". I figured that in old school eastern left-hand-path you defy the collective spirit & whatever society you are part of in order to grow as a person, that I want to do that in music too and combine it into artistic expression, as artistic expression is also an

expression of your very self. (And people keeps asking me how occult and art can be combined...). In other words, I wanted to do find my true artistic spirit within me by defying and renouncing from every shackle that could prevent me to do so. I'm not sure even if we are industrial metal by real genre definitions, but I leave that to those who cares of categorizing and labeling stuff.

Are there any bands that you appreciate and think that they are doing their stuff out of the established scene rules?

- Yes, many! For instance I am now listening as we speak BARATHRUM's Warmetal release recorded in '93 which is kind of good example of this. Mr. Sova told me that they did not even call themselves a black metal band when they started, they just wanted to do heavy and dark music, and then other people labeled them into such when black metal bands started arise more and more. And still they have completely own style which was in 90's way ahead of it's time. It was truly an honor to have Sova guesting on the King Satan debut album because of this.

What makes you different from other aggrotech bands?

- If I have to guess... We do have strong metal and hard rock elements there on the side. We do have guitars and bass guitars, and in some songs we do have real acoustic drums too. But in the big enough picture, we are not really fully a metal band, we are not fully a rock band and we are neither fully a electro band, but we have elements of these all, which seems to be confusing to some, but liberating and fascinating to others.

Tell us your favourite song from the album and why?

- It depends on a day haha! It is for me hard to see the album song by song, because of the reasons I explained before how the recording process went - the whole album is very special to me.

How is a normal day of King Aleister Satan like?

- I try to avoid normal days, because I hate routines as they weigh my spirit down. I like

chaos (order in disorder) and that is also a source of my creativity.

Your influences musically, lyrically and visually?

- To discuss about my influences is rather difficult issue to state clearly, because I think most influences are not conscious for me (or anyone), as I often get influenced by things I hate and despise, in the way that "this is not the way this should be done, but this...!" or "I don't know how the things should be, but I want to find out and here it goes". I of course can name drop for you lots of names that I have been listening A LOT and therefore might've been influencing me (and me being inspired by them), like The Prodigy, Mayhem, Darkthrone, Slayer, Mortis, The Doors, Slipknot, Skinny Puppy, Hocico, Suicide Commando, Deicide, Dodheimsgard, CMX, Tool, Marilyn Manson, Dissection, Cradle Of Filth, Behemoth, G.G. Allin, Barathrum, Satyricon and these from the top of my head. But then, people compare us to Rob Zombie here and there. I don't see it, and if it's there it is not conscious, but yeah I did listen Rob Zombie when I was a kid, maybe it influenced me so deeply that I am not aware of it? Anyway after this interview I probably remember some other names I should've mentioned but don't remember now, haha. Lyrically I admire the styles of Jim Morrison, A.W. Yrjänä, James Maynard Keenan, William Blake, Shakespeare, Baudelaire sooo much, for instance, but I don't know how much of an influence they have been for me per se, because occult authors, philosophers and thinkers such as Aleister Crowley, H.P. Blavatsky, Plato, Spinoza, Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, Castaneda, Chuck Palahniuk, Hunter S. Thompson, Bulgakov, Bertiaux for instance and so on has been most influential for my thinking, but not to artistic and poetic form I use.

Even I could speak about possible influences and inspiration for lyrics, ideas and themes at length for hours, not to mention for music itself, visual side is another one - very deeply connected of my doings. For me all these sides are part of the artistic expression and very important parts, each supporting another, maybe even fulfilling each other. When speaking in terms of videos I make, I think my influences or at least greatest inspirations are coming from such artists as Alejandro Jodorowsky, David Lynch, Darren Aronofsky, Stanley Kubrick, especially Alejandro Jodorowsky who is so much of an inspirational figure with his movies and with his books that should not go unmentioned when speaking of my influences.

I realized you are a director and creator of the music videos of KING SATAN. Could you please tell us about the videos of yours and about the process of video making?

- That is correct. I have always been kind of auteur type of artist, doing most of the stuff myself, but with KING SATAN it took completely new level as I indeed made 4 (or 5, depends on the way of interpretation, since after "Dance with the Devil" there begins secret music video made from "Of Internal, Eternal & Spiritual War) music videos only from the songs of "King Fucking Satan" album. Of course my "auteur" mentality started because I had no budget to anything back in the days, not to studio or videos or graphicicians or anything, so I learned to do these things myself as I did not want to compromise from the vision, went even to film/music/graphic school for that hah, but it was a time well spend cos now it feels that I am starting to collect the fruits of these mental investments I did as younger. But as for KING SATAN's music videos, First single and music video "Enter Black Fire" I did mostly from old school archive footage that I could find, that would strengthen the message of the song even more, as this type of visual experimentation had appealed me ever since I was a kid, and with KING SATAN I tried it for a first time and it worked so well that I did music video for BARATHRUM (their first official music video) with the same method and then again when I worked with EMPPU KAINULAINEN (who co-directed the video) for "Satanized (Praise Hail Satan!) but now with green screen. With "Satanized" I wanted to play with contrasts, like I play and experiment there and there with such things a lot, but as Satanized is one of the heaviest songs lyrically from our debut, I wanted to make lighter and flamboyant video from it and use seemingly different archive footage to tell the same story as the lyrics does. Other videos/singles, "Psygnosis" and "Dance with the Devil" videos had actual storylines and arc of drama there, with "hired" actors. "Psygnosis" was actually inspired of my short story/screenplay I wrote back in school and which was never made, and from where kind of sprouted sort of a side mythology in KING SATAN (Maya institute, Dr. Woland, Cindy Schopenhauer etc...), which was first supposed to be directed by Ari Savonen (Backwood Madness is his directorial debut movie, be sure to check out it), but due to timetable conflicts I ended up doing it (however, Ari was great help in screenplay & pre-production phase). With "Dance With The Devil" I wanted to do darker video saturated with surrealism, in order to paint the picture of the whole album with these videos, as the album has very wide range of topics and themes. I guess by now people realized that in "Dance With The Devil" there are actually two videos, another one made of "Of Internal, Eternal & Spiritual War" starts immediately after "Dance With The Devil" ends, making it sort of a short film, heh. I love working with videos and visual elements a LOT and we kind of did these without knowing that how megalomaniac it was actually to do five music videos

for debut album that has only ten songs.

What are your future plans? Do you have any plans for touring in the future?

- We just started to work on with new songs! When inspiration comes, it is like unstoppable force. And yes, we are negotiating with more gigs too and we are constantly developing our shows! After our NUMMIROCK METAL FESTIVAL 2017 concert we got lots of contacts from very different places, but nothing public yet but I guess they are soon enough so. Unfortunately though no tour plans yet, did negotiate with couple of tours just now, but they unfortunately did not work out for schedule issues and other unmentioned issues - so if any tour organizer or tour agency reads this, you know what to do!

- Any last words?

FUCK THE REST SATAN IS BEST